

Urban District of Denton.



REPORT
ON THE
HEALTH
OF
DENTON
1940 & 1941

J. MARSHALL ROSS,

M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., D.R.C.O.G.


Medical Officer of Health.

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1940.

HEALTH COMMITTEE.

Coun. JOHN BARDSLEY,
Chairman.
„ GEORGE PHILIP WEST,
J.P., ex-officio.
„ SYDNEY MORROW.
„ WILLIAM GEO. SMITH.
„ FRED WORTHINGTON.
„ JOHN WHITEHEAD
BLACKSHAW.
„ TOM KIRK.
„ THOMAS HENRY
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„ JOHN ROBERTS.
„ FRED THOMPSON.
„ PERCY WILSON.
„ JOHN HENRY BOOTH.
„ MARGARET JANE
CLEPHAN, C.C.
„ STANLEY WALKER.

**MATERNITY AND CHILD
WELFARE COMMITTEE.**

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„ JOHN HENRY BOOTH.
„ MARGARET JANE
CLEPHAN, C.C.
„ STANLEY WALKER
and

Not members of
the Council.

Mrs. ETHEL COOKE.

Miss ADA MARIANNE

WALKER.

Mrs. ELLEN WHELAN.

Mrs. SARAH CLAYTON.

1941.

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STAFF.

Medical Officer of Health,

Dr. J. MARSHALL ROSS.

M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., D.R.C.O.G.

Chief Sanitary Inspector, Meat and Food Inspector, Cleansing Superintendent and Petroleum Officer:

CECIL R. LANGDON,
Cert. R.S.I., & S.I. Joint Board,
Meat and Food Inspectors' Cert., R.S.I.
Diploma of the R.I.P.H. & H.

Additional Sanitary Inspector:

CHARLES F. SPENCER,
Cert. R.S.I., & S.I. Joint Board.
Meat and Food Inspectors' Cert., R.S.I.
Appointed 11/11/40.

HEALTH VISITORS.

Miss Helen Jones: S.R.N., S.C.M., N.H.V.R.S.I.

Miss Annie Heywood: S.R.N., S.C.M., N.H.V.R.S.I.

CLERICAL STAFF.

Chief Clerk: Wm. Leslie King.

Typist: Miss Margaret Chadwick.

Public Health Department,
16, Victoria Street,
Denton.

**The Chairman and Members of the
Maternity and Child Welfare Committee,
and the Public Health Committee.**

Ladies and Gentlemen,

In accordance with Article 17 (5) of the Sanitary Officers' (Outside London) Regulations, 1935, and Article 14 (3) of the Sanitary Officers' Order, 1926, I present for your consideration a combined report for the years 1940 and 1941. This is of necessity curtailed following the suggestions of the Minister of Health.

Towards the end of 1940 and carrying on into 1941, Measles and Whooping Cough were concurrently epidemic. Generally the former was mild, but there were four deaths from Whooping Cough—three in 1940 and one in 1941.

Scarlet Fever and Diphtheria in 1940 showed a marked decrease; in both instances the number of cases being only 30 per cent of the 1939 figures. Unfortunately this did not maintain in 1941 when both diseases showed a sharp increase—Diphtheria especially so. In each of the years 1940 and 1941, two deaths occurred from Diphtheria—sufficient reason for intensification of the Immunisation Scheme.

I am,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your Obedient Servant,

J. MARSHALL ROSS,

January, 1945.

Annual Report

STATISTICAL.

	1940		1941
Area (in acres)	2,592.25	...	2,592.25
Population (Census, 1931)	17,384	...	
Estimated Population mid-year, as supplied by the Registrar-General	23,050	...	22,970
Number of Houses (Census, 1931), 4,766	
Number of Houses	7,884	...	7,865
Rateable Value	£120,579	...	£121,739
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	£474	...	£483

VITAL STATISTICS.

	1940				1941		
	M.		F.		M.		F.
Live Births —Legitimate	208	...	187	...	154	...	189
Illegitimate	7	...	5	...	6	...	—
	—		—		—		—
	215	...	192	...	160	...	189
Total ...	407				349		
Stillbirths	8	...	14	...	14	...	10
Rate per 1,000 (live and still) births	51				64		
Deaths	161	...	177	...	161	...	152
Total	338				313		
Death Rate	14.6				13.6		
Infant Deaths —Legitimate ...	15	...	11	...	6	...	6
Illegitimate ...	1	...	—	...	—	...	—
	—		—		—		—
	16	...	11	...	6	...	6
Total	27				12		
Deaths per 1,000 Births ...	66				33		

Causes of Death:	1940.			1941.		
	M.		F.	M.		F.
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	1	...	1	1	...	2
Scarlet Fever	—	...	—	1	...	—
Whooping Cough	1	...	2	1	...	—
Diphtheria	—	...	2	2	...	—
Tuberculosis of Respira- tory System	4	...	3	10	...	5
Other forms of Tuber- culosis	—	...	1	4	...	—
Syphilitic Diseases	6	...	—	—	...	1
Influenza	2	...	—	2	...	—
Measles	—	...	—	1	...	—
Ac. Polio-Myelitis	—	...	1	—	...	—
Ac. Infantile Encephalitis	1	...	—	—	...	—
Cancer of B. cav. and Oesoph (M.) Uterus (F.)	—	...	4	1	...	2
Cancer of Stomach and Duodenum	1	...	2	2	...	5
Cancer of Breast	—	...	8	—	...	5
Cancer of other sites	11	...	13	12	...	12
Diabetes	1	...	1	2	...	1
Intracranial Vascular Lesions	18	...	20	13	...	20
Heart Disease	51	...	39	33	...	25
Other Diseases of Circ. System	—	...	6	2	...	6
Bronchitis	9	...	20	14	...	12
Pneumonia	8	...	7	8	...	6
Other Resp. Diseases	2	...	4	1	...	4
Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum	5	...	0	4	...	1
Diarrhœa under two years	3	...	1	—	...	1
Appendicitis	—	...	2	—	...	1
Other Digestive Diseases	4	...	5	6	...	3
Nephritis	5	...	4	9	...	3
Puerperal & Post-Abort. Sepsis	—	...	1	—	...	—
Other Maternal Causes ...	—	...	2	—	...	—
Prem. Birth	3	...	3	1	...	0
Con. Mal., Birth Inj., Infant Disease	6	...	3	3	...	3
Suicide	—	...	1	1	...	1
Road Traffic Accidents ...	1	...	1	2	...	—
Other Violent Causes	6	...	2	8	...	15
All Other Cases	12	...	18	17	...	18
Total	161	...	177	161	...	152

LABORATORY FACILITIES.

The following work was carried out by the Public Health Laboratory, Manchester:—

	1940		1941
Diphtheria Swabs	64	...	77
Agglutination	—	...	1
Sputum (Tuberculosis)	17	...	3
Milk (Tuberculosis)	—	...	1
Water (Bacteriological)	3	...	2
Water (Chemical)	—	...	1
Milk (B.C. and B. Coli)	1	...	15
Milk (Dysentery)	—	...	1
Ice-Cream (Bacteriological)	14	...	3
Salmon (Bacteriological)	3	...	—
Cerebro-spinal Fluid (Gold Curve)	1	...	1
Pleural Fluid (Tubercle Bacilli)	1	...	—
Water (Dysentery)	—	...	1
Fæces and Urine (Typhoid, etc.)	—	...	14
Hæmolytic Streptococci	—	...	1
	104	...	121

AMBULANCE:

The Council has an agreement for the use of the Hyde Borough Ambulances. Calls were made as follows:—

	1940		1941
Infectious Cases	28	...	60
Non-Infectious Cases	727	...	1076

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

MIDWIFERY SERVICES:

This service is under the control of the County Council. There are two whole-time midwives and a third devotes the greater part of her time to the district.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE:

The Council maintains one Infant Welfare Centre.

ATTENDANCES:

	1940		1941
Children under one year	351	...	288
Children over one year	74	...	47

HOME VISITS:

Expectant Mothers—First	63	...	69
Subsequent	11	...	30
Infants—First	335	...	343
Subsequent	773	...	482
Children over one year	1383	...	1300
Stillbirths	12	...	25

ANTE-NATAL CLINIC:

Number of women who attended	202	...	188
Number of attendances	613	...	553

	1940		1941
POST NATAL CLINIC:			
Number of women who attended	8	...	12
Number of attendances	8	...	12

ULTRA VIOLET LIGHT TREATMENT:

New cases treated during the year	19	...	30
Number of children who received treatm't	36	...	38
Number of attendances	394	...	615

SUPPLY OF MILK:

Amount supplied by the Council	879	...	— Pints
Amount supplied by the Voluntary Assoc.	6213	...	5187 lbs.

In addition to the above, Bovril and other nourishments have been supplied free to Expectant and Nursing Mothers and cases of sickness. This work is ably conducted by the Voluntary Welfare Association.

MATERNITY HOMES AND HOSPITALS:

Agreements have been made with St. Mary's Hospital, Manchester, and the District Infirmary, Ashton- under-Lyne, for the admission of maternity patients. Cases were admitted as follows			
	16	...	10

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM:

Number of cases notified	2	...	1
Cases treated at home	2	...	1
Cases treated in Hospital	—	...	—

CHILD LIFE PROTECTION:

The Health Visitors have been appointed Infant Protection Visitors. The number of children on the register at the end of the year was			
	5	...	5

HOME HELPS:

A Home Help Service Scheme was approved and put into operation dur- ing 1940. The number of Home Helps provided was as follows			
	3	...	12

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

WATER SUPPLY:

Manchester Corporation supplies the district with water. The following samples were submitted for analysis with satisfactory results:—

Bacteriological	3	...	2
Chemical	—	...	1

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION:

Pail Closets	16	...	16
Fresh Water Closets	8407	...	8388
Waste Water Closets	291	...	289

Two Waste Water Closets were converted to Fresh Water Closets during 1940.

CLEANSING.

Increased Salvage work necessitated the purchase of a 30cwt. lorry which was put into operation on the 1st January, 1941.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

	1940.		1941.
Water Supply	12	...	1
House Drainage	153	...	9
Stables and Piggeries	125	...	80
Tents, Vans and Sheds	7	...	7
Factories	41	...	47
Outworkers' Premises	9	...	—
Public Conveniences	145	...	177
Refuse Collection	116	...	247
Refuse Disposal	326	...	385
Rats and Mice	21	...	7
Smoke Observations	—	...	12
School Yards and Lavatories	22	...	32
Miscellaneous Visits	11	...	19
Interviews with agents, owners, etc., of property	83	...	107
Shops Acts	15	...	—
Petroleum Act	48	...	4

**RESULT OF ACTION IN REGARD TO DEFECTS OR NUISANCES
DISCOVERED.**

	1940.		1941.
Dustbins renewed	120	...	244
Blocked Drains released	95	...	65
Yard Surfaces repaired	4	...	3
Downspouts repaired	4	...	2
Drains relaid	—	...	4
W.C. Cisterns repaired	17	...	32
Water Supply Pipes repaired	21	...	10
W.C. Pedestals renewed	9	...	5
Roofs Repaired	30	...	23
Eaves Gutters repaired.....	8	...	6
Damp Walls remedied	41	...	20
Window Frames repaired	45	...	34
Floors repaired	14	...	13
Walls replastered	26	...	18
Ceilings replastered	1	...	2
Stairs repaired	—	...	1
Firegrates repaired	20	...	19
Miscellaneous repairs	73	...	65
Offensive Accumulations removed	—	...	2

NOTICES.

	Served				Complied with			
	Informal		Statutory		Informal		Statutory	
	1940	1941	1940	1941	1940	1941	1940	1941
Public Health Act, 1936	234	387	12	34	231	331	10	24
Housing Act. 1936	115	105	18	15	101	69	22	6

SHOPS AND OFFICES.

Improved heating arrangements were enforced in a few instances during 1940. No action was necessary during 1941.

ERADICATION OF BUGS.

	1940.	1941.
The following houses were sprayed with Vermicine or Zaldecide and afterwards fumigated with Sulphur	15	17

HOUSING.

	1940.	1941.
Number of new houses erected by private enterprise	16	27
Number of cases where overcrowding was relieved	15	—

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

MILK SUPPLY.

	1940.	1941.
Number of Farms	22	22
Number of Cows	550	620
Number of Dairymen (other than cow-keepers)	105	133
Number of Inspections	84	275
Dealers' Licences for distribution of Tuberculin tested milk	2	2
Dealers' Licences for distribution of Accredited Milk	1	1
Supplementary Licences for distribution of Pasteurised Milk	15	13
Milk Samples—		
Sediment Test	70	100
Methylene Blue Reduction Test	9	14
Bacteriological	—	15
Tuberculosis	—	1

MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

Shops, vehicles, stalls, etc., are inspected by the Sanitary Inspectors who also inspect cattle, etc., slaughtered at the Ministry of Food No. 2 Depot, Stockport. This Depot supplies meat for four areas which have arranged a rota system for the purpose of meat inspection.

NUMBER OF ANIMALS INSPECTED.

	1940.	1941.
Beasts	311	622
Cows	6	—
Sheep	2527	2403
Pigs	12	15
Calves	330	399

WEIGHT OF MEAT AND OTHER FOODS CONDEMNED.

	1940				1941			
	Tons	Cwts.	Qrs.	Lbs.	Tons	Cwts	Qrs.	Lbs.
Bovine	1	17	0	25	5	16	1	11½
Porcine	0	0	0	4	0	0	3	8½
Sheep	0	1	3	16	0	1	3	2
Tripe	0	8	0	1	0	0	0	0
Tinned Foods	0	0	0	6½	0	0	2	2½
Miscellaneous Foods.....	0	1	3	16	0	0	1	19
	2	9	0	12½	5	19	3	15½

Two cases of suspected food poisoning were reported during 1940, but on investigation were disproved.

The Council is not an Authority under the Foods and Drugs Act.

BAKEHOUSES.

Bakehouses are kept under regular supervision, and the condition in all has been found satisfactory.

INSPECTIONS.

	1940.	1941.
Offensive Trades	70	55
Fish-frying Places	6	4
Bakehouses	115	78
Food Investigation	8	22
Slaughterhouses	78	13
Shops and Market Stalls	382	369
Butchers	547	411
Fishmongers	87	89
Grocers	25	31
Greengrocers	20	70
Cowsheds	84	57
Dairies and Milk Shops	211	218
Ice Cream Premises	37	3
Hawkers' Carts	20	—
Food Preparing Premises	—	1
Restaurants	—	1
Shops	—	3
Miscellaneous Food Visits	3	—

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

By agreement hospital cases are removed to Hyde Borough Hospital. In October 1940 maintenance charges were increased 10 per cent. by reason of war conditions.

Measles and Whooping Cough were epidemic at the end of 1940 and carried on into the Spring of 1941. Cases were confined chiefly to young and pre-school children. Measles was of a mild nature, but there were four deaths from Whooping Cough, three in 1940 and one in 1941. There was a marked reduction in the

incidence of Diphtheria during 1940, although there were two deaths; in 1941, however, there was a marked increase in cases of Scarlet Fever and Diphtheria. Diphtheria was faucial in type and 50 per cent. of the cases occurred in schoolchildren. There were two deaths. During 1940 there was an increase in the number of cases of Pneumonia (all forms) with a mortality rate of 26 per cent. probably due to weather conditions associated with long working hours. There was a decrease in Pneumonia cases during 1941. A scheme for Immunisation against Diphtheria was approved by the Ministry of Health in August, 1940. During 1941 four cases of Paratyphoid occurred and a carrier or sub-clinical case was found.

CHILDREN IMMUNISED BETWEEN 1937 AND 1941.

Age.	1937.	1938.	1939.	1940.	1941.
Under 1	14	6	10	—	47
1— 2	21	17	17	—	165
2— 3	23	9	8	—	110
3— 4	20	8	4	—	101
4— 5	23	4	1	—	75
5— 6	39	8	1	—	78
6— 7	35	4	—	—	72
7— 8	44	3	—	—	69
8— 9	29	3	—	—	42
9—10	28	6	—	—	40
10—11	23	—	—	—	33
11—12	20	2	—	—	24
12—13	13	2	—	—	23
13—14	—	1	—	—	10
14—15	—	—	—	—	—
15—16	38	1	—	—	—
16—17	3	—	—	—	—
	373	74	41	—	889

Total number of children Immunised	1377
Percentage of 0—5 immunised at end of 1941	34.8
Percentage of 5—15 immunised at end of 1943	26.5

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING THE YEAR.

Disease.	Total Cases		Total Deaths		Removed to Hos.		Deaths in Hospital	
	1940	1941	1940	1941	1940	1941	1940	1941
Scarlet Fever	23	59	—	1	11	17	—	—
Diphtheria	6	26	2	2	5	21	1	2
Enteric Fever	—	4	—	—	—	4	—	—
Measles	471	276	—	1	1	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	97	51	3	1	2	1	2	—
Pneumonia	56	36	15	14	—	—	—	2
Puerperal Pyexia	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cerebro-spinal Fever	5	9	2	3	4	5	1	2
Acute Poliomyelitis	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	4	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Observation Cases	—	11	—	—	—	11	—	—
					1940	1941		
Houses were disinfected as follows :					96	88		

TUBERCULOSIS.

NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1940 AND 1941.

Age Period		New Cases				Deaths			
		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
		1940	1941	1940	1941	1940	1941	1940	1941
		M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.
Years	...								
0— 1	...								
1— 5	...				1				
5—10	...			1					
10—15	...	1	1	1					
15—20	...		3	1		1			
20—25	...	1	3			1			
25—35	...	3	3						
35—45	...	2	2	1	1	1	2	2	2
45—55	...	4	3			1	2		1
55—65	...	1	2				4		1
65 and upwards	...	4	3		1	3	2		
Totals.....		13	7	14	10	1	3	2	4
						5	2	10	5
						(4)	(3)		(1)
		20	24	4	6	7	15		4
						(7)		(1)	

Figures in brackets are those supplied by the Registrar General.

